

THE (3)
STATE
OF

The ISLAND of
JAMAICA.

Chiefly in
Relation to its COMMERCE,
AND THE
Conduct of the SPANIARDS
IN THE
WEST-INDIES.

Address'd to a Member of PARLIAMENT.

By a Person who resided several Years at Jamaica.

L O N D O N :

Printed for H. WHITRIDGE, the Corner of Castle-
Alley in Cornhill. 1726.

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Printed for H. WILKINSON, the General Printer,
At the Crown and Anchor, in Cornhill, 1725.



S I R,

IT will be needless to tell you, who are so well acquainted with every Branch of the Trade of this Kingdom, the Advantages which arise from the Island of *Jamaica*; or that it might be made more beneficial, were the Hardships and Oppressions they have met with from the *Spaniards* for several Years past, effectually redress'd, prevented for the future, and some farther Encouragement given to it.

It is evident to all, who are conversant in Trade, that that Island is of greater Consequence to the Crown of *Great Britain*, than all the other Sugar Colonies, belonging to his Majesty; for as it is situated in the Center of the *Spanish West Indies*, it is capable of being made exceeding useful in War, as well as in Peace. The late King of *France* was so sensible of this, that he often had his Eye that way, with intent of making himself Master of it; but by the Goodness of her late Majesty, and the Vigilancy of her Ministry, in main-

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taining two Regiments of regular Forces * and a Squadron of Men of War there, during the War with *France* and *Spain*; the Enemy's Design was prevented, and the Island became formidable to her Neighbours. It is fresh in our Memory, what vast Riches were brought in by Sir *Charles Wager*, and Vice Admiral *Littleton*, beside what was taken by single Cruisers, and their own Privateers; which became so numerous, that at one time, above 30 Sail from 70 to 150 Men each, were in Commission, and fitted out from *Port Royal* and *Kingston*. Notwithstanding their Success, which occasion'd a flow of Money, the Inhabitants in general earnestly wish'd for Peace, as the most probable way of being happy, and making the Island flourish; by what means they failed in so desirable and laudable an End, and are reduced to a low and declining Condition, in respect to Trade, and the Number of white Inhabitants, well deserves the Consideration of those in Power, before it be too late, and so valuable a Branch of Trade be entirely lost, or rendered impracticable.

Though the State and Condition of the Island, and the Trade of it, are often the Subject of Conversation among those who are interested in it: Yet as they have hitherto been wanting to themselves, in not making a general Representation to the Ministry; it is absolutely necessary they should be set in a proper Light, as the nefarious Practices of the Spaniards are still continued, being encouraged by their respective Governors†; and the fruit-

* *General Handasyd's, and Colonel Livesey's.*

† *Vide, Sir Nich. Laws's Letter to the Governor of the Havanna, in the Appendix, No. 11. Also the Extract of a Letter from Jamaica to a Merchant in London, No. 13.*

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fruitless Applications that have been made to them by the unhappy Sufferers for Restitution and Satisfaction.

THE Steps they have taken from time to time, together with the Proceedings thereupon, are fairly and impartially related in the following Sheets ; as will appear by the Affidavits, and other Vouchers in the Appendix ; and can be farther attested by several credible Persons who are now in *England*. Such a Scene of Rapine and Villany ! will undoubtedly make an Impression on those who have any Regard to Justice, the Honour of the Nation, or the Prosperity of his Majesty's Subjects. To you, *SIR*, who have always been a steady Friend and Benefactor to that Island, I address my self, without any farther Apology ; being perswaded, that though you are arrived at a Season of Life, which requires a Recess from Business : you cannot be inactive, whenever the Service of your Country, or the Interest of that Island in particular, calls for your Attention and Assistance.

IN *September, 1712.* the *Cessation of Arms*, and soon after the *Peace* with *France* and *Spain* was proclaimed in *Jamaica* ; the Inhabitants apply'd themselves very diligently to Trade, and improving their Sugar Plantations, wherein they made such a Progress, as gave them hopes of seeing the Island, in a few Years, in a more flourishing Condition than ever : But at a time when they were unprovided, and lull'd with the Security of Peace, they were very much surpris'd at the Captures that were made of their Vessels on the high Seas, and on their own Coasts, by the Subjects of the King of *Spain*, as well as at their

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landing frequently in the remote Parts of the Island; plundering the Inhabitants, and carrying away great Numbers of Negroes. How much more Reason had they to be allarm'd, when they understood, that these Acts of Hostility were committed under the Sanction of a Commission, by Vessels fitted out in a Warlike manner (a), on pretence of guarding their Coast, and preventing a Clandestine Trade; the Vessels, Goods, and Effects taken by them, being carried publicly into the *Havanna*, *St. Jago*, and other *Spanish* Ports; some of them receiving the Form, and only the Form of a legal Condemnation; and others disposed of without giving the Masters, or Proprietors (b) an Opportunity of making a Defence. And though these Proceedings, so contrary and repugnant to the Treaties of Peace and Commerce between *Great Britain* and *Spain*, were from time to time complain'd of by the respective Persons who were injured, and obtained Letters in their Favour from the Governor of *Jamaica*, to the Governors of the *Spanish* Ports, and Places where their Goods and Effects were carried to, and confiscated, yet no manner of Satisfaction could be obtain'd; but after abundance of Trouble and Expence in Soliciting, some were put off in a very scandalous Manner, with Threats (c) and Menaces, and others with Complements, and directed to the Court

(a) *Vid. The Appendix, No. 2. 3, 6, 7, 8, 12.*

(b) *Vid. No. 6, and 10.*

(c) *This was particularly the Case of Mr Saunders, who went to Trinidad to demand 25 Negroes, taken off of his Plantation at Jamaica; and upon his Complaint to the Alcaldeis concerning their Delays and evasive Answers, he was ordered to depart in a very few Hours, or they would send him to their Prison.*

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Court at *Madrid*: But how many Difficulties would attend such an Application! and how Expensive would it be to a private Person, or indeed to any Body of People, residing in Parts so distant from *Spain*!

As the *several Representations*, which had been made to the *Spanish* Governors, by private Persons proved ineffectual; the Merchants of *Kingston* and *Port Royal*, in *August* 1716, laid a Memorial before the Governor and Council of *Jamaica*, setting forth the many and great Losses they and others had sustained, by the Subjects of the King of *Spain*, since the Cessation of Arms; and that many of his Majesty's Subjects were killed and wounded in defence of their Vessels and Goods; and some in cool Blood, with Affidavits proving the same.

Soon after this Memorial was presented, his Majesty's Ship the *Adventure*, Capt. *Tho. Reynolds*, was sent by the Government to *St. Jago*, and *Trinidado*, to represent the Injustice of these Proceedings, and to demand Restitution and Satisfaction. The Answers that were given by the Governor and Alcaldes, consisted of little more than some *Spanish* Finesses; and that the Damages complain'd of were committed by Persons who exceeded their Commissions, and should be treated as Pyrates whenever they were met with; though it is notorious that they were afterwards admitted into those very Ports (d); and so far from being taken up and

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(d) *Vid.* The Extract of Sir Nich. Laws's Letter to the Govern^r of the *Havanna*, in the Appendix, No. 11.

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punished, that they were again fitted out in the same manner, and committed the like Abuses.

HERE I beg leave to observe, that these Proceedings (though they will not justify, for nothing can justify so abominable, so execrable a Villany, yet certainly they were the true Cause that) occasion'd the Rise of the *English* Pyrates, and laid the Foundation of all the Mischiefs which have happened by their Means. The Success of his Majesty's Ships, and the Privateers, during the War, occasion'd a resort of Seamen from all Parts to *Jamaica*. After the Peace they went chearfully into the Merchants Service, and were well contented with their Employment, till they had been taken several times, and not only cruelly and inhumanly treated; but in losing their Wages, they and their Families were exposed to want, and other Hardships. It was a common Saying among them, which I have often heard, that it was very hard they should be so used and insulted by the *Spaniards*, and to have their Hands tyed. Resentment, and the want of Employ (as the Merchants were discouraged by those vile Practices from Trading) were certainly the Motives to a course of Life, which I am of Opinion, most or many of them would not have taken up, had they been redress'd; or could they by any lawful Means have supported themselves. This is evident from their Behaviour (e) at first setting out, in not molesting any *English* or *French* Vessels they met with, and declaring that their Designs were intended against the *Spaniards* only; though afterwards,

(e) Hornygold and Fox, who were the first that turn'd Pyrates in the West-Indies, after the Peace with France and Spain.

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wards, when they understood that a Proclamation was issued out in his Majesty's Name, by the Governor of *Jamaica*, declaring them to be Pyrates, and offering a considerable Reward to those who should take or destroy them ; they then made no manner of distinction, but took and plundered every thing they met with.

NOTWITHSTANDING the Inhabitants have lain under the imputation of encouraging their wicked Practices, on Examination it will appear to the contrary ; and that no part of Mankind has a greater abhorrence and detestation of every Thing that has a tendency that way. Tho' two or three Vessels (f) that were fitted out on different Occasions, committed some Hostilities, and turn'd Pyrates : Is it not very unjust, that a Body of People should be so severely censured without any other Grounds or Foundation ? And is it not altogether as unreasonable, as it would be to charge a whole County, as Accessaries to the Robberies that are committed on their Roads ? It is certain, the Government of that Island took all the Measures in their Power to suppress them ; and as the Flame broke out at a time when there was but one Man of War on the Station, the Revenues in debt, and the Assembly could not be conven'd soon enough to raise Money on this Occasion. The Merchants very chearfully rais'd a considerable Sum among themselves by Subscription, and fitted out two Sloops of ten Guns, and eighty Men each, which were commission'd by the Governor, and commanded by Capt. Ox-
brough,

(f) *The Sloops that were fitted out to fish on the Spanish Wrecks on the Coast of Florida.*

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brough, and Capt. *Stevenson*; and soon after two others commanded by Capt. *Lidderdale* and Capt. *Naylor*, the two last mentioned retook the *Kingston*, Capt. *Saunders* of *London*, whose Cargo amounted to 20000 *l.* Sterling, and destroy'd the *Pirate* (*Thompson*) who had taken him.

IN 1717, Capt. *Jonathan Barnett*, who was then in the Merchants Service, met with a *Pirate*, commanded by one *Wrackham*; and after a smart Engagement, took and carried him into *Port Royal*. The Assembly, as soon as they met, gave him 200 *l.* and the Command of one of the Sloops that were fitted out in the Service of the Country, as a Reward for so gallant an Action. Nor can I omit mentioning the Readiness of the Governor and Council, in making full Satisfaction to the *Spaniards* for some Vessels that were taken by the Privateers after the Cessation of Arms, though it was unknown at the time of those Captures; one of which that was very valuable, appeared to be taken in less than 24 Hours after it took Place in the *West-Indies*. How different is this from the Behaviour of the *Spanish* Governors? Their Complaint was not delayed being heard; and on making out their Allegations, they had Restitution and Satisfaction; they were not put off with Complements or evasive Answers, and directed to the Court at *St. James's*.

It will be tedious to enumerate the many Instances (g) that can be produced to make out what I have asserted; therefore I shall not mention any more

(g) *Vid. The Appendix.*

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more than the following, as they are sufficient for my purpose. Major *Thomas Cook* of the Parish of *St. James's*, the N. W. part of *Jamaica*, having been plundered by one of their *Guarda-de-la-Costas*, as they are called, particularly of thirty odd choice Slaves, obtained a Letter from the Governor, to the Governor and *Alcaldeis* of *Trinidado*; representing the Injustice of such Proceedings, and demanding that suitable Redress and Satisfaction might be made him and others of his Majesty's Subjects, who had suffered in the same manner; though Major *Cook* went in Person and saw several of his Negroes, which he inform'd the *Alcaldeis* of, and in whose Possession they were; yet he came away after an expensive Attendance for several Weeks, without any manner of Satisfaction; tired with their Delays, and evasive Answers. By this means, a Gentleman of a very good Character and Estate, was reduced to low Circumstances, being unable to carry on his Sugar Work for want of such a Number of Hands, there being among them his *Boylers*, *Tradesmen*, and the best of his Slaves.

IN 1721. the *Westbury Galley* of *Bristol*, *Jabiz Biglow* Master, was taken on the high Seas, in her Passage from *Guinea* to *Jamaica*, and carried into *Baraco*; though there is so little Colour for seizing any Ship at Sea, that by the Treaty in 1670. which is the only Treaty that respects Affairs in *America*; there is not so much as the least Authority thereby given, to visit any Ship at Sea; which shews that the contracting Powers thought it not safe to trust their Subjects with such a Liberty, least it should minister to them too many Opportunities to commit Violence and Rapine in those distant Seas.

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As soon as Comodore *Vernon*, who then commanded his Majesty's Ships on that Station, was informed of this Capture; he sent the *Happy Sloop*, Capt. *Joseph Laws*, to demand the said Ship and Cargo so illegally taken: tho' she was then in Port with the Negroes aboard, and the Vessel that had taken her, he was not able to get her restored, or brought to a fair Tryal; so far were they from doing Justice, that at the time when Capt. *Laws* was representing the Matter to the Governor of *St. Jago*, on seeing the Captain of the *Guarda de la Costa* pass by, he demanded him to be taken up and try'd for Piracy; to which the Governor made no other Reply, than that he was Judge there.

IN 1722, his Majesty's Ship, the *Launceston*, Capt. *Candler*, being on a Cruise to protect the inward bound Trade from the Insults of the Spanish *Guarda de la Costas*, saw a Sail which he suspected to be one of them; as he was acquainted with their Practices, he bore away as if he intended to avoid her: His Design succeeded, for the other imagining him to be a Merchant Man, persued, and on coming up laid him aboard, but was soon made sensible of their Mistake. In searching his Papers, Capt. *Candler* met with several that related to a Vessel, fitted out from *Port Royal*, and bound to *Curaço*, which had been missing some Months, and no account could be given of her. Soon after they arrived at *Jamaica*, the Masters of two Ships belonging to *Boston* in *New England*, who had been taken by them, gave in their Information to the Governor on Oath, on which Thirty Nine were Tryed, Convicted, and Executed; some of them, after Sentence was passed,

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confessed that they had taken the Vessel before-mentioned; and that they murdered all the Men belonging to her.

It has been artfully insinuated by some Persons, who bear no Good-will to the Island, that they were the first Aggressors, and provoked the *Spaniards* to such kind of Measures by way of Reprisal or Revenge, the contrary of which is so notorious, as I have already shewn, p. 5, 6, 7, 8. But as this has made an Impression on many who are not acquainted with what passes in that part of the World; and have not enquired into the veracity of what has been very confidently asserted, it is necessary to observe, that there was not the least Hostility committed against them, nor an *English* Pyrate known in the *West-Indies* till the latter end of the Year 1716. before which time it appears by the List, and Affidavits in the Appendix, that near 30 Sail of Ships were taken, and other Hostilities were committed by the *Spaniards*. I cou'd wish indeed, they had not been furnished with one single Instance; but as I have already observed the vile Acts of two or three Vessels, which they have so industriously taken hold of, were not encouraged nor conniv'd at by the Government; nor did they presume to return to any Port or Place on the Island. I need give no other Proof, than that such of them (b) as were taken before the Act of Grace, suffered the Punishment the Law prescribes for such notorious Offences.

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(b) Wrackham and his Gang taken by Capt. Barnet, and others Executed at Port Royal in 1717.

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It is likewise objected in favour of the *Spaniards*, that the private Trade with them is prohibited ; and consequently they have a Right to seize any Vessel for breach of their Laws. In answer to this, you will be pleased to observe, that I have not advanced any thing in Favour of those Vessels that were seized on their Coast for Trading, and confiscated on a fair and legal Conviction : Nor have I in the Estimate of the Losses sustained by them, set down any Thing which might give the least Surmise of that kind. My Intention is, to shew in a plain and clear manner, how little Regard they have to the Treaties of Peace and Commerce between their *British* and *Catholick* Majesty's, or to the common Rules of Justice and Honour. And though I am far from allowing that there is any Reason in this Argument for confiscating our Ships, &c. nevertheless I have avoided any mention of those Vessels that were seized on their Coast on Pretence of Trade, or taken in the Bays of *Campeachy* and *Honduras*; though the last mentioned Places, and some of the former Vessels, may reasonably be contested : And I have often wondered it has not been enquired into and explained, how far they have a Right to those Places, since they never had any regular Settlements there ; and our People were dispossessed of them in time of Peace. If their Pretensions are not well grounded, then of Consequence the Captures they have made on that Account are illegal, and they ought to make Restitution.

THIS Trade to *Campeachy*, had its Rise from the decay of Privateering ; for after the Peace with *Spain* in 1667. the Privateers, who liv'd upon the Plunder and Booty they acquired by the

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the War, were put to their shifts, having prodigally spent what they got; and wanting Subsistence, some of them went to *Petit Guavas*, on the Island of *Hispaniola*, where a considerable Number of *French*, and other Privateers (otherways called *Buccaneers*) were seated, and had not then submitted, and put themselves under the Subjection of the Crown of *France*; but the more industrious Sort of them went and settled in the Bay of *Campeachy*; for having often cruised near *Champeton* River, where the *Spaniards* cut Logwood, and by that means becoming acquainted with the Value of it, and the Knowledge of the Trees, it put them on searching other parts of the Continent, till they found out the Lagune of *Trist*, which was some time before the Peace in 1667. After that, whenever they were disappointed of a Prize, or other Booty, some of them would lade their Ships with Logwood, which was then very valuable, and carry it to *Jamaica*. The *Spaniards* had not then frequented that Place, nor ever had any Settlement there, though they attempted it some Years after that Peace, when they dispossessed the *English* (who were settled there) but they soon deserted it. Our People then took Possession of it again, but have often been disturbed by the *Spaniards*, who made Prizes of their Shipping whenever they could overcome them, particularly in the Year 1718, and in 1724, when they took upwards of 20 Sail each time, and drove the People on Shoar from their Settlements.

It will not be improper to observe, that before the *English* settled in the Bay of *Campeachy*, Logwood was generally sold from 90 to 110 *l.* per Ton, which is very credible, if we consider that

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that the very Duties (i) payable at Importation, was 5 £ per. Ton, for many Years together: And as great Quantities are consumed in *Great Britain*, by the Dyers, the Reduction of the Price, as well as being the Importers, is a considerable Advantage to the Nation; as it enables us to dispose of our Manufactures so much cheaper than the *Dutch*, and other Nations, and consequently greater Quantities are by that Means exported and consumed.

THIS Trade employ'd above one hundred Sail of Ships, and near two thousand Seamen, including those that were settled Ashore; so that on a moderate Computation, they could not export less than 12000 Tons of Logwood yearly, which at nine Pounds per Ton, the Current Price now, (tho' vastly short of what it was formerly worth, as has been already mentioned) amounts to 108,000 £. As the incidental Charges centered in our selves, what ever arose from thence, was so much gain'd to the Nation; since it was the Product of bare Labour; and the People employ'd therein, were supported with the Produce of their own Country.

Is it not then worth while to have this Point settled? and will not that Person do an eminent Service to his Country, who is in a Capacity, and will be at the Pains of enquiring into it; and (if the *Spaniards* have not an exclusive Right) of asserting ours (k), to so beneficial a Trade?

Nor

(i) This Duty was laid the 14th Char. II. when Logwood was valu'd at 100 l. per. Ton, and 5 l. per Cent. laid thereon, which is 5 l. per Ton.

(k) Vide the 7th Article of the *American Treaty*, in 1670. the *English* were then in Possession of the Bay of *Campeachy*.

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NOR was the Loss of such an annual Sum the only Damage *Great Britain* sustain'd, the People employed in that Trade being deprived of their Livelihood (which was acquired with great Labour, and attended with many Hardships; an Argument that they were reduced to great Extremity, before they went into any vicious Courses) some of them joined the Pyrates, and others entered into the *Spanish Service*. As they were well acquainted with the Coast of *Jamaica*, several bad Consequences attended it, beside the Loss of a great Number of Men.

It is worth considering, that the *Spaniards* never were allowed by the Crown of *Great Britain*, to have an exclusive Right to the Continent, or Islands of *America*, that were not actually possess'd by them, any more than the *French*, *Portuguese*, or any other Nation. For there is nothing in the Treaty of 1670. that can be construed to allow of such an exclusive Right. The Words, *Preeminence, Right, or Dominion* of either Confederate, in the 15th Article, having Respect only to the *American Seas, Channels, or Waters*, which they are to *have and retain, in as full and ample Manner, as may of Right belong unto them*: But what Right, &c. can be pretended to be thereby yielded to them, of uninhabited Countries or Places, not in their Possession? Or, what Right does this Article give them, to any Thing but what *belongs to them*, that is, but what is inhabited by them?

NOR is there any Thing in this Treaty, that bars the King of *Great Britain*, or his Subjects, from possessing any Part of the Continent or Islands of *America*, where no other Possessions were before

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them. Which being particularly the Case of the Bays of *Campeachy* and *Honduras*, the driving our People from thence in Time of Peace, after they had been settled there many Years, and taking all the Ships they found there, and making them Prizes; is certainly a manifest Breach of the Peace, and ought to be redress'd.

THE 7th Article of this Treaty in 1670. secures to the King of *Great Britain*, the Sovereignty, &c. of all Places, &c. he then possessed in *America*, and which certainly includes the Bay of *Campeachy*, and gives us a just Claim, had we no other Pretensions to it; as it had been some Years in the Possession of the *English*, and who were (as I have already observed) the first that settled there. It doth not imply, that the King of *Great Britain*, or his Subjects, shall not possess any more, or other Parts and Places; nor ought this Article, not being reciprocal, as to the Places in Possession of the *Spaniards*, to be understood by Construction, or *pro Confesso*, that they had an exclusive Right to all the rest of *America*: since between Nation and Nation, nothing but the express Words of a Treaty ought to be deem'd obligatory; nor ought any Thing of that Consequence to be allowed, without being expressly agreed to, by the contracting Parties.

As to the Vessels that were seized on the Coast of *New Spain*, on Pretence of Trade, and which I am of Opinion, ought to be contested; I mean, such as were confiscated without a fair and legal Conviction, I shall only mention the *Kensington*, Capt. *Henry Thornton*, which was seized, and carried into *Carthagena*. It must be owned, she went upon that Coast, with Intent to Trade; but as she was only on the Coast when the *Spaniards* seized her,
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nothing could be alledged against her, but meer Conjectures : for as she had not actually traded, or broke Bulk, nor entered into any Port where they had any Fortifications, &c. she could not be judged guilty of transgressing the 8th Article of the Treaty of 1670. by which such Entry is forbid ; So that their seizing of her cannot be justified, or said to be a legal Proceeding.

THE Usage which Mr. *Richard Sharp*, the Supra Cargo, the Master, and Men met with, was very extraordinary, such as was seldom known in Time of War ; being confined close Prisoners aboard one of their Men of War, above five Weeks ; during which Time they were treated with great Severity, and had not an Opportunity of making their Case known to the proper Officers. At length with Abundance of Difficulty, they got a Letter convey'd to the Governor ; who indeed ordered them their Liberty without any Delay, and on their being heard, allowed them to appeal from the Sentence of Condemnation that was pass'd : but notwithstanding the Sentence was dis-allowed of by the President of *Santa Fee*, to whom all Appeals from their Courts are made ; the Vessel and Goods were apprais'd and sold, and the Produce deposited in the Hands of the Royal Officers, till the King of *Spain's* Pleasure should be known. The Owners have several Times since apply'd themselves to the Governor of *Carthagena*, and President of *Santa Fee*, but obtain'd no other Answer, than that they must make their Application to the Court at *Madrid*, nor do they yet know his Catholick Majesty's Pleasure ; or how the Money is disposed of. It is highly reasonable and necessary, that such Cases should be contested, and not given up ; in regard to the Nature of the Thing it self, as well as to Vessels,

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that may be driven on their Coasts, by Stresses of Weather, or some other Accident; which will be liable to the same Pretence of Trade, and become a Prey to their voracious Temper. We have abundant Reason to be apprehensive of such Usage, from a long Experience of their Behaviour and Readiness to take all Advantages. And may we not naturally conclude, that being silent on the Occasion, will encourage these Practices, and be a Means of other Encroachments? How often have they taken *English* Vessels, and in a formal Manner condemned them in their Courts of Justice, as they are called; for having on Board Pieces of Eight, (*l*) Logwood, and other *Spanish* Commodities: without any Consideration where they took them in, or in what Part of the Seas the Capture was made; and when such Pretence has been wanting, they have not stuck at the vilest Methods (*m*) of compassing their Ends? It is well known that the *South-Sea* Company has a Factory settled at *Jamaica*, and that they import those Commodities, which are re-exported to *Great Britain*: but admitting they were imported by the private Trader; the Vessel that has not been on their Coast, but *bona fide*, takes them on Board at *Jamaica*, and is bound to *Great Britain*, or some of his Majesty's Dominions, certainly is not liable to a legal Capture, or any other Forfeiture. For doubtless when Pieces of Eight, or any other *Spanish* Commodity, has been landed at *Jamaica*, and re-laden for *Great Britain*; there is no Difference between the *Spaniards* seizing of Ships for having them on Board, and their

(*l*) *Vide* the Appendix, No. 1, 7, 8.

(*m*) *Vide* the Appendix, No. 9, 10, 14, 15. And Sir N. Law's Letter to the Governor of the *Havanna*, No. 11.

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their landing on the Island, or committing any other Act of Hostility. The Laws of *England*, that prohibit the Exportation of Wool, are as strict as well can be consistent with the Law of Nations: yet if an Alien Vessel is taken on the high Sea, and brought into one of our Ports, for having *English* Wool aboard, it would be deem'd a Violation of the Treaty with that Prince, to whose Subjects she belongs, to confiscate such Ship and Goods; especially if it appeared that she had not been on our Coast, but took it in at some other Place or Country. Nor indeed, would an *English* Vessel in such a case, be liable to a Seizure, as the Jurisdiction of the Officers of the Customs extends no farther than our own Coast, and within sight of Land.

THE *Act of Parliament*, made in the 10th and 11th of King William, *forfeits Wool, &c. exported, laden, and conveyed; and every Ship or Vessel, wherein the same shall be conveyed, that is from England or Ireland, with intent to Export them to any Port or Place, than what are expressly mentioned in the said Act; and the Ships of War, and armed Vessels, that are appointed to seize all Ships and Vessels, exporting those Commodities to Foreign Parts, are directed to Cruise on the Coast of England and Ireland, and between the North of Ireland and Scotland. Nor doth their Power in this or any other Act extend farther. Surely the Spaniards cannot pretend to a more extensive Jurisdiction on the Seas, than a Nation so much more eminent for its naval Power! And if any of their Laws allow of such Acts as have been committed by their Guarda de la Costas, they are contrary to the Law of Nations; and a manifest Breach of the Peace; more especially their landing on the Island of Jamaica, and*

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plundering the Inhabitants, or seizing any Vessel on that Coast, or the *French Part of Hispaniola*, on any Pretence whatsoever.

But supposing that a Ship, that should actually export any of the Coin, or any Wool, &c. out of the Kingdom or Dominions of *Great Britain*, or any Gold or Silver, wrought or unwrought, out of the Dominions of the King of *Spain*; and should thereby be liable to a Seizure, by the 15th Article of the Treaty made in 1667. for restoring Peace and Friendship between those two Crowns in *Europe*; because it is thereby agreed, that the Laws of the respective Countries should, in those mentioned Cases, take place (n). Yet the finding any other prohibited Goods, (as Logwood from *Spain*, or raw Hides from *England*) not expressly mentioned in that Article, shall no ways forfeit the said Ship, much less the rest of her Lading; but such prohibited Goods only shall be confiscated. But there can be no Colour for confiscating a Ship and her Lading, that should be found with the proper Coin or Bullion, &c. even in the very Ports of the *English* or *Spaniards* in *America*; because there is not the least Mention of any Thing to that Purpose, in any of the Articles of the said Treaty, in 1670. And as that Treaty was expressly declared by the Preamble, and other Articles, to be made with Design, to settle a good Agreement between the *English* and *Spanish* Nations in *America*; it must certainly be concluded, from the Difference between this and the other Treaty, in such a material Point, that it was

(n) *Vide* the 15th Article of the Treaty with *Spain*, in 1667. As also the 24th and 25th Article of the said Treaty, which explains what are meant by prohibited and contraband Goods.

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was not the Intention of the two contracting Kings, that any such Regulation or Restriction should take place in *America*. And much less if those Commodities were not ship'd from any of the Ports of the said Kings, in *America*.

How unreasonable then will it be, to submit to those vile Impositions, and tamely bear such a Load of Injuries? And what will be the Consequence of their Proceedings, if they are continued? And continued they will be, unless some Measures are taken, to put a Stop to them, and to redress what is past.

How often have we been alarm'd with Ships being taken at Sea, and other Mischiefs done by the Pyrates? Yet it may be made appear, that most of the Damages the Merchants have sustain'd in the *West Indies*, which have generally pass'd under that Notion, were committed by their *Guarda de la Costas*; and that in seven Years Peace, the Value of those Damages, exceeded all the Losses the Island of *Jamaica*, and the Trade of it, met with, during the War with *France* and *Spain*. Our Merchants Ships then went and came under Convoy, or so well man'd and provided, that they were able to dis-engage themselves from their Privateers; but when the Peace was concluded, imagining that they might pass the Seas with Security, they provided no more than what were sufficient to navigate their Ships, and by that Means were easily overcome, and made a Prey to those Villains.

THE Trade of *Great Britain* to *Jamaica*, is become so precarious, that Ships are obliged to wait for Convoy or Company, when they are loaded and homeward bound, or be expos'd to imminent Dangers. The Consequence is not only a great

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Expende to the Merchants, but it gives the *French* and *Dutch* an Opportunity of coming earlier into *Europe*, and furnishing other Nations with those Commodities that are the Produce of the Islands; and the Markets frequently suffer, by the large Imports that are generally made in Fleets, which would be more advantageous, were they to come in gradually.

It will be natural to enquire, how, it happen'd that such notorious Abuses, and of so long Continuance, never have yet been represented to the Ministry, by the Merchants in general? This I can attribute to nothing else but the want of publick Spirits, which seem to be in a Manner totally extinguished. The Trade from *London* and *Bristol* being generally insured, and by that Means, the Loss divided among a great Number of People; every one is rather contented to bear his Proportion, than be at any Trouble and Expende in soliciting. The Merchants in *Jamaica* made some Steps towards it, notwithstanding the Difficulties and Discouragements they lay under, in regard to their remote Situation; but the late War with *Spain*, and the State of Affairs since, put a Stop to it. But surely this cannot be an Objection to its being done, as the Continuance of those infamous Practices shew the Necessity of some Measures being taken to suppress them, and to procure full and ample Satisfaction for what is past.

THE most effectual Method that can be taken, to redress these Injuries, will be to authorize the several Governors of the Colonies, and their Council, to grant Letters of Reprisal, on due Proof of such illegal Captures, and other Depredations, on his

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his Majesty's Subjects, by the *Spaniards*; after a Demand has been made, for three or six Months, without Restitution or Satisfaction.

WHEN it is considered, the Difficulties, and even the Impossibility of obtaining Redress any other Way; since we have fully experienced the unreasonable Delays, and evasive Answers of the *Spanish* Governors, and other Officers in *America*; and that his Majesty's Subjects never obtain'd any Manner of Satisfaction, by their Applications to them: this Method of Reprisal will appear highly reasonable and necessary, as it is the only one that can be effectual; and therefore it is to be hoped, that on a proper Representation, it may be approved of, and granted by the Government. For how unhappy must be the Condition of that Person, who falls into the Hands of the *Spaniards*, though he is allowed Council to appear, and solicit his Cause, (which by the Way has seldom been granted) when Appeals are made from Place to Place, with no other View, than to tire out the Claimants. For Instance, from *Carthagena* to *Santa Fee*, and from thence to *Madrid*. In such Case, he must be oblig'd to drop his Claim, (as several have done) rather than leave his Affairs in *America*, and come to *Europe* to solicit Justice, at the Expence of his Time and Money, and Loss of his Business, which might end in his Ruin.

THE Necessity and Reasonableness of granting Reprisals, seems to have been foreseen, by the Difference observable, in the Wording the Articles relating to Reprisals, in the two Treaties with *Spain*, in 1667. and in 1670. In the first, if Occasion of Complaint be given, Provision is made, Article the 3^d. That no Letters of Reprisal shall be

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be granted, till *Justice* has been *delay'd* or *deny'd* above six Months, by the *Commissioners* who should be *appointed to receive and hear such Demands*; but in the other, by the 14th Article, the King, whose Subjects suffer Wrong, may upon *denial*, or *delaying of Justice*, grant Letters of Reprizal. In this Article, no Mention is made of *appointing Commissioners to receive and hear the Complaints or Demands* of the Sufferers, as in the Treaty of 1667. Nor is there any *limited Time* for the Persons aggrieved to wait for Justice or Satisfaction. But the King, whose Subjects are injured, may (immediately upon the first Denial of Justice, if he please, for any Thing there said to the contrary) grant Letters of Reprizal, or to *take any Course consistent with the Law of Nations*, until Satisfaction be made the Sufferers. Which Difference between the two Treaties must undoubtedly have been made, by the Former's having Respect to *Europe*, where Redress might be more easily obtained; but the Latter's respecting *America*, where if Justice be at first denied, it was look'd upon as too expensive and endless to have Recourse to any other way but that of Reprizal.

THE Inhabitants of *Jamaica* have the most grateful Impression of his Majesty's Goodness, in maintaining five Men of War to attend that Station in time of Peace; though it is certain they did not in all Respects answer the End designed: For as they generally consisted of Ships of 40 Guns, they drew so great a Draught of Water, as rendered them incapable of following small Vessels among Shoals and Keys, which put the Country under the Necessity of fitting out two Sloops, as they did for some Years at a considerable Expence, to prevent any further Depredations, though that did

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did not prove altogether effectual; and the Revenues were under so many Incumbrances, that the Inhabitants were scarcely able to support themselves under such heavy Taxes as were laid to discharge these and other Exigencies of the Government, especially after so dreadful a Calamity as happened in 1722, which they have not, nor will be able to recover in some Years.

HAVING shewn you, *SIR*, in what manner his Majesty's Subjects are treated and insulted by the *Spaniards*, in the *West-Indies*, and that in time of Peace they suffer all the Calamities of War: It is now incumbent on me, to point out some other Grievances that obstruct the Settlement of an Island, which for its valuable Produce, and commodious Situation for Trade or War, deserves all the Encouragement that can be given it. It is computed, that above two hundred Sail of Ships, and near five thousand Seamen, are employ'd in this Trade; and that the Produce of the Island, in one Year, has amounted to 25000 Hogsheads of Sugar, beside great Quantities of Indigo, Ginger, Cotton, Piemento, and other valuable Commodities: and as there are vast Tracts of uncultivated Land, how greatly might it be improved, and his Majesty's Customs encreased thereby? but that cannot be expected under their present Circumstance; and therefore it is necessary that every Impediment to it should be removed. In order to this, if I may presume to offer my Opinion, some Measures should be taken to redress the Injuries which they have sustained by the *Spaniards*; and to prevent them for the future. As also for the better Peopling of the Island, the Trade to the Coast of *New Spain* should be encouraged and protected; and the Practice of
Fo-

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Foreigners touching at that Island on pretence of wanting Wood or Water, but with a Design to Trade, prevented. I shall make it appear to be a manifest Injury to the fair Trader ; and that his Majesty's Customs are, and will be much more impaired thereby. Whatever Views some Persons may have in discouraging the private Trade from *Jamaica* to the Coast of *New Spain* ; those who are dis-interested will allow, that *Great Britain* has gained very considerable Advantages thereby ; and that it is for the publick Interest it should be supported. Whether the present Method of carrying on that Trade, be more or less beneficial to the respective Traders, is not the only Point we ought to have in view : In the Estimate of any Branch of Trade, the Quantities of *British* Manufactures exported, and the number of Ships and Seamen employed therein, are to be considered. The Trade to *Africa*, since it was laid open, has been much more beneficial to the Nation, though the Profits do not rise so high to the Adventurers, than it was when exclusive, as it employs six times the Number of Ships and Seamen ; and the Quantities of *British* Manufactures exported and consumed are in proportion. It is also worth considering, that the *Affiento* is but temporary ; and if we argue from the Conduct of the *Spaniards* in *Europe*, as well as in the *West-Indies*, it is very probable after this is expired, another will not be granted to the *English* ; and consequently the Trade can then be only carried on in a private way, as it was before this *Affiento* was thought of. But if the private Trade be wholly discouraged, it may never happen to be retrieved, since every one is sensible how difficult it is to regain any lost Branch of Trade : Nor can it be fairly said to be a Disadvantage

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vantage to the *South Sea Company*, since they are limited in the Tonage of Goods, which they are licensed to import into *New Spain* in their annual Ships ; and therefore any Diminution of the *English* private Trade will proportionably augment that of the *French, Dutch*, and other Nations ; but cannot encrease that of the *South Sea Company*.

THAT Trade was the chief Support of the Island of *Jamaica* ; nor can it otherways subsist, without being a very considerable Expence to *Great Britain*, in maintaining a number of regular Forces to secure it : For as it visibly declines every Year, it is much to be feared, that unless some Measures are speedily taken to prevent it, it may on a Rupture with *France* or *Spain*, fall into the Hands of its vigilant and potent Neighbours.

WHAT I have here suggested, will appear too well grounded, when we consider what vast Improvements the *French* have made in their Settlements on the Island of *Hispaniola* ; and the Encouragement that is given them by the Court of *France*. On the other Hand, it is well known what an implacable Enmity the *Spaniards* bear to it, as it was conquered from them, and has been a Thorn in their Sides in all the Wars we have had since with that Nation. The Envy and Grudge they bear to it, is an Argument of its Value, and a sufficient Reason, for a more than ordinary caution for its Preservation. In the late War with those Powers, and sometime after the Peace, there seldom were less than 3000 Seamen belonging to the Island ; the Number now does not exceed 500, including those employ'd in the *South-Sea-Company's* Sloops ; and the Inhabitants in general are so much decreas'd, that it is not proper to be mentioned. THE

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THE Assembly have done all that lay in their Power to encourage People to go over and settle there : And an Act was lately transmitted by his Grace the Duke of *Portland*, the present Governor, for his Majesty's Approbation ; Entituled, *An Act to encourage the Settling the North East Part of the Island.*

By this Act, 30000 Acres of Land are vested in the Crown, to be distributed among such Persons as shall go over and settle the same, viz. 30 Acres to every White Person in Family, and in proportion to every free Negro and Mulatto. The Act likewise makes a Provision for their Subsistence for six Months, and exempts them from all Taxes for seven Years.

THAT part of the Island, commonly known by the Name of *Port Antonio*, but now called *Portland*, is commodious for Trade and Shipping, as well as Planting ; and the Settlement of it will be an Advantage to the Crown in the Duties that will arise from the Product of so large a Tract of Land, which may be very considerable in a few Years : It will also strengthen the Island, and be a Security to the North Side of it, which lies very much exposed to the Enemy in War, and to the Insults of the Pyrates, and the *Spanish Guarda de la Costas* in time of Peace. Here Vessels that are Homeward bound through *Cape Maes* and *Cape Nichola*, when chased by an Enemy, or in any kind of Distress, may meet with Succour, which they will probably fail of before they can reach *Port Royal*.

It will likewise be convenient for his Majesty's Ships that Cruise between the said Capes for the Protection of Trade, and be an Awe to *St. Jago* and *Trinidado*, those Nests of Pyrates, otherways called *Guarda de la Costas*, as

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it is within a few Hours sail of both those Places. The Harbour is not to be excelled by any in the World, the Channel into it being so narrow, that two Ships cannot conveniently enter abreast; and a small Island (containing about 90 Acres of Land) lies at the Mouth of it, whereon a Town and Fortification is to be built that will command any thing going in or out: Three fine Rivers run into it, and 'tis capable of receiving 200 sail of Ships, which may ride in three Fathom and half to nine Fathom Water, securely in all Weathers. An Instance of this we had in *August* 1722. The Night before the dreadful Hurricane, two Sloops put in there on some apprehensions of bad Weather, and rode out the Storm; when at the same time forty odd sail of Ships were lost at *Kingston* and *Port Royal*, which are generally allow'd to be good Harbours.

THE Soil is fertile, and capable of producing any thing that grows in the *West-Indies*; and as there is great plenty of Fish, wild Fowl, and Hogs, no Encouragement is wanting that may reasonably be expected by new Settlers. Nor is it to be doubted, that an Act of so great Importance, and for the general good of the Island, will meet with his Majesty's Approbation.

WHEN the Island was conquered by the *English*, they found the *Spaniards* settled on the South Side, which was more convenient for them, in regard to a nearer Communication with the main Continent; and for the *Galleons* and *Flota*, that generally touched there for Refreshment. As the first *English* Inhabitants had Towns and Plantations ready settled, they thought proper to fix there for that Reason; as also the commodious Situation for Trade with
Porto-

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Porto-bello and *Carthagen*: Though in process of Time, when the Island became better settled, and old Plantations worn out, some Attempts were made for settling this part of the Island wherein are found so many Advantages. But as the rebellious Negroes were seated near it, and had cut off several Families; and the Place was very much exposed to the Enemy in War, and the Pyrates and *Guarda dela Costas* in time of Peace; it was found impracticable to be done but by a number of People going there together, and by a Fortification to be raised and maintained at the publick Expence. This Consideration moved the Assembly to pass that Act, and give such Encouragement as they have done for People to go there and settle, as they find by experience it is not practicable on any other Place. The distance from *Kingston* is about 70 Miles, 76 from *Port Royal*, and 88 from *St. Jago-dela-vega*, commonly called *Spanish Town*.

As to Foreigners touching at that Island, on pretence of wanting Wood and Water, or having met with some Accident, but with design to Trade, it has been a notorious Practice for some Years. On their Arrival they apply to the Governor in a plausible manner, and obtain a License to supply their pretended Occasions: When they have accomplished their Designs in making Contracts, they repair to some other Place on or off the Island, and deliver large Quantities of Goods, which are clandestinely brought into Port, and Sold; as they are generally paid for them in Specie, the Island is drained of its Currency, great Quantities of Bullion are carried away, which would otherways be exported to *Great Britain*, his Majesty's Customs are impaired, the constant

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trading Ships from *London* and *Bristol* hurt in their Freights; and the fair Trader discouraged, in that they are able to undersell them in those Commodities which they import, at least 25 *per Cent.* having them at first Hand, and not paying any *English* Duties.

THESE Abuses in Trade, are not only complain'd of by the Merchants in general at *Jamaica*; but were represented by the Committee of Grievances, in their Report to the Assembly of that Island, among other things of a more heinous Nature: As will appear by an attested Copy of their Minutes in the Appendix, N^o. 16.

I cannot give you a better Idea of the unhappy Posture of Affairs in that Island, in respect to Trade, than is represented in the following Extract of a Letter from thence to a Merchant in *London*, dated Sept. 22d. 1725.

' For a Trade to — or some other *Spanish*
' Port is the only thing I can think of to prevent
' a Calamity that hangs over us; I mean raising
' of our Exchange. You are so much Master of
' that Argument, that I will not take up your time,
' in telling you the Consequences that will inevitably
' flow from such an alteration of Exchange:
' But I do assure you within these two Days, I have
' been offered 40 *per Cent.* for a Sterling Bill of 400*l.*
' These are some of the blessed Fruits of raising
' Pieces of Eight to ten Ryals: I expect e're long
' our heavy Money will mount to 7*s.* 3*d.* *per oz.*
' I am told, that 7*s.* 2*d.* has been given already.
' One would think, that such Strokes as these
' should awaken every Man in *England*, who has
' any Interest in *Jamaica*.

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‘ THE *Dutch* carry off our Money; the *Spaniards* dare not deal with the private Trader, and the *South-Sea-Company* buy no Negroes. While Things are at this unlucky pass, whence can we expect a supply of Money? Or how is it possible the Trade to this Island can be supported, or carried on to any Advantage?

THE Complaints in this Letter are so justly grounded, and so evident to those that have any Notions of Trade, that very little need be said to enforce them. The raising of their Money, is not only a manifest Breach of an Act of Parliament for settling the Coin in the Colonies, but also the municipal Laws of the Country; wherein Pieces of Eight of 17 *pwt.* are ascertained and limited at five Shillings, and other Pieces in proportion. Yet a Practice hath prevailed so much of late Years, that Pieces of Eight of an uncertain Weight, now pass current in tale at ten Ryals, or 6 *s.* 3 *d.* each. If this be allowed of, where will it end? for by the same Rule that they are raised to 6 *s.* 3 *d.* in a Year or two they may mount to 7 *s.* 6 *d.* or 10 *s.* and as they rise, so will other Commodities in proportion. How injurious such a Proceedure will be to Trade in general, and in particular to those that have Debts already contracted in the Island; is so plain and evident, that I need not give a detail of the Consequences that may justly be apprehended will arise from it: for certainly whatever the Money may be raised above its intrinsic Value, as ascertained by Law, will be so much loss to the Merchants, who instead of receiving their full Debt, in Fact will not have more than 13 or 14 *s.* in 20. besides the difference of Exchange between

Ster-

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Sterling and Spanish Money. We have seen how injurious such a Scheme has been to *New-England, Carolina,* and other Countries, that one would think they were enough to deter them from it, and alarm every Man, who has any Interest in, or Regard for the Country.

I CANNOT conclude, without taking Notice likewise, that the Inhabitants of *Jamaica*, are very much disquieted at its being suggested, lately, that they have not a Right to the *Habeas Corpus Act*. In Answer to this, it is necessary to observe, that Writs of *Habeas Corpus* were always granted by the Common Law, before that Statute was made; and that *Magna Charta* declares the Subject entituled to it: the Act was only made to oblige the Judges to grant it, and the Officers to obey it; least the Fear of offending Governors and great Men, might terrify and keep such from doing their Duty, as held their Offices during Pleasure.

WHATEVER may be the Reason, there is not any such Act in force in the Colonies, it cannot from thence be concluded, that they are not entituled to what *Magna Charta* declares to be the Right of the Subject under *English* Government: or, that their not having such an Act confirmed to them, leaves all his Majesty's Subjects in those Parts, to the Mercy of arbitrary Governors; even where the Crime is not capital, or against the State.

WHEN it is considered how remote the Colonies are to *Great Britain*, especially the Island of *Jamaica*; it cannot be thought reasonable that any Governor should be invested with such an un-

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limited Power, in regard to the Length of Time, before the Person aggrieved can have an Answer to his Complaint; in Case of an ill Use being made of such a Trust. And therefore it becomes all those who have any Interest in, or Regard to the Colonies, to use their Endeavours for obtaining a Point so essential to their Happiness; which, if not effected, to what an unhappy Pass may they be reduced! Is it not natural to fear, that their Properties may by this Means be wrested from them, by an arbitrary rapacious Governor? Or that their Healths and Lives may be endanger'd, by a tedious Imprisonment, in a hot Climate, before they possibly can obtain an Order from his Majesty, for their Relief.

If the natural born Subjects of the Crown of *Great Britain*, by removing to the Colonies, forfeited their Pretensions to what they are entituled to by Birth; have we not just Grounds to be apprehensive, they will some Time or other be deserted: and that *Jamaica* in particular, surrounded by potent and inveterate Enemies, may fall into the Hands of its old Masters, the *Spaniards*, who never tasted the Sweets of *English* Liberty?

WHILE *Great Britain* enjoys so many Blessings that flow from the Reign of a mild and indulgent Prince; whose greatest Glory is the Happiness of his People: it cannot be suppos'd, that so just and reasonable a Claim will not be granted on a proper and becoming Application; as they are equally his faithful Subjects, beneficial to the State, and descended from the same Original. Nor can we justly doubt the Favour of the Ministry, who are

more

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more eminent, for having asserted the Rights and Liberties of their Country, when they were violently attack'd by the Enemies to our Constitution, than the high Stations they bear ; the just Reward of their Zeal for the Protestant Succession, and of their unshaken Virtue !

NOTWITHSTANDING all that has been said, I am conscious, of not having describ'd so fully and pathetically, as might have been, the unhappy State and Condition of that inestimable Colony ; nor should I have attempted it, had it not been neglected by those, who are much better qualified for such an Undertaking.

But it was high Time the Curtain should be drawn (though imperfectly) and discover in some Degree, the lowering Clouds that hang over it, and threaten its Desolation. There are so many concurrent Circumstances tending to it, that unless some immediate Care be taken, its Catastrophe may be much sooner, and more fatal than we seem to be aware of.

I beg leave to mention one more, as it is of the highest Consequence to them ; the municipal Laws of the Island expired in *October*, 1724. and they are so unhappy, not to have as yet the Act approved of and confirmed, that re-enacts those Laws, and makes his Majesty's Revenues there perpetual.

An Order indeed, was sent over to the Governor, to assent to an Act, for reviving them for one Year, that the other might be more fully consider'd of ; and when that Year was near expired, another Order was sent to the same Purpose.

By what Means it happened, I will not take upon me to say, but in the Year 1724. the Time was elaps'd near six Weeks ; and we understand by the last Letters from thence, which are dated the 4th of *January*, 1725. that the

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Bill for re-enacting those Laws, was not passed, so that they had been without any judicial Proceedings, from the 1st of *October*, to the Date of those Advices, and probably might be longer; though the second Order had been arrived there some time.

THIS annual Tenure of their Laws, may be of pernicious Consequence, not only in regard to the Courts of Justice, which have been interrupted, and cannot be holden for want of such an Act being in Force; but also to the white Servants and *Negroes*, who are sensible of, and may take the Advantage of the several Laws being expired, that were made to keep them in due Order and Subjection. All the Advices from thence, of late, are full of Complaints, of their distressed Condition, in those and some other Respects, which are evidently too well grounded.

The Consequence of the Island of *Jamaica*, to the Crown of *Great Britain*, is manifested in the Care and Tenderness the Ministry have shewn for it, on all Occasions, that came before them: and as their Vigilance, and unwearied Application for the Service of their Country, are conspicuous in every Part of their Administration, we have abundant Reason to be assured of all the Justice and Service in their Power; whenever these Grievances are fully and clearly represented to them. With this, and no other View, I have presumed, SIR, to lay them before you, in Hopes that they will furnish you with some Hints, which may be useful to an Island, that has had many Instances of your Favour; as well as to Trade and Navigation, which you have always encouraged and

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promoted, with a Zeal becoming one of the Representatives of *Great Britain*, and a true Lover of his Country.

I am, with the most perfect Regard,

S I R,

Charleton in
Kent, Feb.
25, 1725.

Your most Obedient, and

Most Humble Servant,

A--- B---



Ex-

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*Extract of the 1st Article of the Treaty
with Spain, concluded at Utrecht, in
1713.*

MOREOVER the Treaty of 1670. made between the Crowns of *Great Britain* and *Spain*, for preventing all Differences, restraining Depredations, and establishing Peace between the said Crowns, in *America*, is again ratified and confirmed, without any Prejudice however, to any Contract, or other Privilege or Leave, granted by his *Catholick Majesty*, to the Queen of *Great Britain*, or her Subjects, in the late Treaty of Peace, or in the Contract of *Assiento*, as likewise without Prejudice to any Liberty or Power, which the Subjects of *Great Britain* enjoyed before, either through Right, Sufferance, or Indulgence.



A Treaty for composing Differences, restraining of Depredations, and establishing of Peace in America, between the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain, concluded at Madrid, the 18th Day of July, in the Year of our Lord 1670.

Preface. **W**HEREAS for many Years past, the good Understanding and Correspondence between the English and Spanish Nations having been disturbed in America, it pleased the most serene and powerful

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erful Prince Charles, King of Great Britain, &c. in order to the restoring and regulating the same for the future; to send into Spain his Envoy extraordinary, Sir William Godolphin, Knight; with full Authority and Power to make any Treaty convenient and proper for that End: And likewise the most serene and powerful Charles, King of Spain, &c. and the Queen Regent Maria Anna, &c. for the carrying on a Work of so much Piety and publick Good, deputed on their Part, the Earl of Penaranda, Counsellor of State, and President of the Indies, to confer, treat, and conclude thereupon, with the said Sir William Godolphin: At length they mutually resolved and agreed upon the Articles of the following Treaty in Virtue of their several Commissions.

I.

FIRST, It is agreed between the above mentioned Plenipotentiaries Sir Wil-

The Treaty of 1667. confirmed.

liam Godolphin, and the Earl of Penaranda, in the Names of the most serene Kings respectively, their Masters, that the Articles of Peace and Alliance, made between the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain, in Madrid, on the 1st of May, 1667. or any Clause thereof, shall in no Manner be deemed, or understood to be taken away, or abrogated by this present Treaty; but that the same shall remain perpetually in their ancient Force, Stability, and Vigour, so far forth as they are not contrary, or repugnant to this present Convention and Articles, or to any Thing therein contained.

II.

THAT there be an universal Peace, true and sincere Amity in America, as in the

An Universal Peace, as well in America as elsewhere.

other

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other Parts of the World, between the most serene Kings of *Great Britain* and *Spain*, their Heirs and Successors, and between the Kingdoms, States, Plantations, Colonies, Forts, Cities, Islands, and Dominions, without any Distinction of Place, belonging unto either of them, and between the People and Inhabitants under their respective Obedience, which shall endure from this Day for ever, and be observed inviolably, as well by Land as by Sea, and fresh Waters, so as to promote each the Welfare and Advantage of the other, and favour and assist one another with mutual Love; and that every where as well in those remote Countries as in these which are nearer, the faithful Offices of good Neighbourhood, and Friendship may be exercis'd and increased between them,

III.

All Enmities and Depredations to cease.

Also, that for the Time to come, all Enmities, Hostilities, and Discords between the said Kings, their Subjects, and Inhabitants, cease, and be abolished: And, that both Parties do altogether forbear and abstain from all Plundering, Depredation, Injuries, and Infestation whatsoever, as well by Land as by Sea, and fresh Waters every where.

IV.

Letters of Mart revoked.

THE said most serene Kings shall take Care that their Subjects do accordingly abstain from all Force and Wrong-doing: And they shall revoke all Commissions and Letters of Reprisal and Mart, or otherwise containing Licence to take Prizes, of what Condition or Kind soever, being to the Prejudice of the one or other of the said Kings

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Kings, or of their Subjects; whether the same have been given or granted by them, unto Subjects or Inhabitants, or unto Strangers; and shall declare the same to be void, and of no force, as by this Treaty of Peace they are declared so to be: And whosoever shall do any Thing to the contrary, he shall be punished, not only criminally, according to the Merit of his Offence, but shall also be compelled to make Restitution and Satisfaction, for the Losses to the Parties damnified, requiring the same.

Restitution for Losses contrary to this Treaty.

V.

AND furthermore, the said Kings shall renounce, as by the Tenor of these Presents every of them hath and doth renounce, whatsoever League, Confederation, Capitulation, and Intelligence, made by what manner soever, in the Prejudice of the one or the other, which doth or may repugn against this Peace and Concord, and all and singular the Contents thereof: All which and every of them, so far as they do concern the Effect aforesaid, they shall annul and make void, and declare to be of no Force or Moment.

Renunciation of all Leagues, &c. contrary to this Peace.

VI.

THE Prisoners on both Sides, one and all, of what Degree or Condition soever, detained by Reason of any Hostilities hitherto committed in America, shall be forthwith set at Liberty, without Ransom, or any other Price of their Freedom.

Prisoners released.

VII.

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VII.

All Injuries to be forgotten. ALL Offences, Damages, Losses, Injuries, which the Nations and People of *Great Britain* and *Spain*, have at any Time heretofore, upon what Cause or Pretext soever, suffered by each other in *America*, shall be expunged out of Remembrance, and buried in Oblivion, as if no such Thing had ever past.

English to keep what they possess at present in America.

MOREOVER, it is agreed, that the most serene King of *Great Britain*, his Heirs and Successors, shall have, hold, and enjoy for ever, with plenary Right of Sovereignty, Dominion, Possession, and Propriety, all those Lands, Regions, Islands, Colonies, and Places whatsoever, being or situated in the *West Indies*, or in any other Part of *America*, which the said King of *Great Britain*, and his Subjects do at present hold and possess; so as that in Regard thereof, or upon any Colour or Pretence whatsoever, nothing more may or ought to be urged, nor any Question or Controversy be ever moved concerning the same hereafter.

VIII.

Sailing to, or trading in, each others Ports in America forbidden.

THE Subjects and Inhabitants, Merchants, Captains, Masters of Ships, Mariners of the Kingdoms, Provinces, and Dominions of each Confederate respectively, shall abstain and forbear to sail and trade in the Ports and Havens which have Fortifications, Castles, Magazines or Warehouses, and in all other Places whatsoever, possessed by the other Party in the *West-Indies*,

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Indies, to wit, The Subjects of the King of *Great Britain* shall not Sail unto, and Trade in the Havens and Places which the Catholick King holdeth in the said *Indies* : Nor in like manner, shall the Subjects of the King of *Spain* Sail unto, or Trade in those Places which are possessed there by the King of *Great Britain*.

IX.

BUT if at any time hereafter, either Kings shall think fit to grant unto the Subjects of the other, any general or particular License or Privileges of Navigating unto, and trading in any Places under his Obedience who shall grant the same ; the said Navigation and Trade shall be exercised and maintained according to the Form, Tenor, and Effect of the said Permissions or Privileges to be allowed and given ; for the Security, Warrant, and Authority whereof, this present Treaty and the Ratification thereof shall serve.

Except by License.

X.

It is also agreed, That in case the Subjects and Inhabitants of either of the Confederates, with their Shipping (whether Publick and of War, or Private and of Merchants) be forced at any time, thro' stress of Weather, pursuit of Pyrates and Enemies, or other Inconvenience whatsoever, for the seeking of Shelter and Harbour, to retreat and enter into any of the Rivers, Creeks, Bays, Havens, Roads, Shores, and Ports belonging to the other in *America*, they shall be received and treated there with all Humanity and Kindness, and enjoy all friendly Protection and Help. And it shall

In case the Ships of either Party be forced into the other's Harbours in America ; they shall be protected, and have leave to buy Victuals, and freely go away again.

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shall be lawful for them to refresh and provide themselves at reasonable and the usual Rates with Victuals, and all Things needful, either for the Sustenance of their Persons, or Reparation of their Ships, and conveniency of their Voyage; and they shall in no manner be detained or hindered from returning out of the said Ports or Roads, but shall remove and depart when and whither they please, without any Let or Impediment.

XI.

*In case of Shipwrack,
Persons saved not to be
kept Prisoners.*

LIKEWISE if any Ship belonging to either Confederate, their People and Subjects, shall within the Coasts or Dominions of the other, stick upon the Sands, or be wrack'd (which God forbid) or suffer any Damage, the Persons Shipwrack'd and cast on the Shore, shall in no sort be kept Prisoners; but on the contrary, all friendly Assistance and Relief shall be administred to their Distress, and Letters of safe Conduct given them for their free and quiet Passage thence, and the return of every one to his own Country.

XII.

*In Case three or four Ships
come together into any
Port, not to stay without
leave from the Governor,
nor to Trade.*

BUT when it shall happen, that the Ships of either (as is above mentioned) through Danger of the Sea, or other urgent Cause, be driven into Ports or Havens of the other, if they be 3 or 4 together, and may give just ground of Suspicion, they shall immediately upon their arrival, acquaint the Governor, or chief Magistrate of the Place, with the Cause of their coming, and shall stay no longer than the said Governor, or chief

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chief Magistrate will permit, and shall be requisite for furnishing themselves with Victuals, and Reparation of their Ships. And they shall always take care not to carry out of their Ships any Goods or Packs, exposing them to Sale, neither shall they receive any Merchandize on board, nor do any thing contrary to this Treaty.

XIII.

BOTH Parties shall truly and firmly observe and execute this present Treaty, and all and every the Matters therein contained, and effectually cause the same to be observed and performed by the Subjects and Inhabitants of either Nation.

Both Parties shall cause this Treaty to be kept.

XIV.

No private Injury shall in any sort weaken this Treaty, nor beget Hatred or Dissentions between the aforesaid Na-

tions, but every one shall answer for his own proper Fact, and be prosecuted thereupon: Neither shall one Man satisfy for the Offence of another by Reprizals, or other such like odious Proceedings, unless Justice be denied, or unreasonably delayed, in which Case it shall be lawful for that King, whose Subject hath suffered the Loss and Injury, to take any Course according to the Rules and Method of the Law of Nations, until Reparation be made to the Sufferer.

No Reprizals, but in case of denying, or unreasonably delaying Justice.

XV.

THE present Treaty shall in nothing derogate from any Preeminence, Right, or Dominion of either Confederate

This Treaty not to prejudice either's Dominions in those Seas.

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in the *American Seas, Channels, or Waters*, but that they have and retain the same in as full and ample manner, as may of Right belong unto them: But it is always to be understood, that the Liberty of Navigation ought in no manner to be disturbed, where nothing is committed against the genuine Sense and Meaning of these Articles.

XVI.

Ratification.

LASTLY, The solemn Ratification of this present Treaty and Agreement made in due Form, shall be delivered on both Sides, and mutually exchanged within the Space of four Months from this Day; and within eight Months to be computed from the said Exchange of the Instruments (or sooner if possible) they shall be published in all convenient Places throughout the Kingdoms, States, Islands, and Dominions of both Confederates, as well in the *West-Indies*, as elsewhere.

In Testimony of all and singular the Contents hereof, We the above mentioned Plenipotentiaries have Signed and Sealed this present Treaty at Madrid, the 1st Day of July, in the Year of our Lord 1670.

*The Count of
Penaranda.
L. S.*

*William Godolphin.
L. S.*

A LIST of Ships taken by the Spaniards, in the West-Indies, since the Peace with Spain, in 1712. not including any that were taken in the last War.

	Ships Names.	Masters.	Of what Port.	Where bound.	Where carried	
					to.	
1713	Charles	David Johnson	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado	
1714	John Thomas	Charles Bags	Jamaica	Musquitos	Campeachy	
	Pearle	John Drudge	Jamaica	Pt. Louis	St. Domingo	
	Ruby	Nat. Vial	Jamaica	Curafo	Carthagena	
	John and Sarah	Francis Targeir	Jamaica	Curafo	St. Domingo	
	Henry	Stev. Smith	Jamaica	Musquitos	Tolu	
	Tho. and Elizabeth	Mat. Muffon	Jamaica	Musquitos	Trinidado	
	William	Thomas Fag	Jamaica	Curafo	St. Jago	
	Hunter	Richard Jones	New York	Jamaica	Cracus	
	Sarah	Andrew Crean	Jamaica	Pt. Louis	Trinidado	
	Leeds Galley	John Thomas	London	Bahamas	St. Jago	
	Content	Joseph Morgan	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado	
	Westmoreland	B. Schoolmaster	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado	
	Samuel	Andrew Crean	Jamaica	Pt. Louis	St. Jago	
	Return	John Andrews	Barbadoes	Cape Francois	St. Jago	
1716			D			Newport

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Ships Names.	Masters.	Of what Port.	Where bound.	Where carried to
Newport	William Mufto	Carolina	Jamaica	St. Jago
John and Mary	J. Stevenfon	Penfilvania	Jamaica	Trinidado
Swan	John Lynch	Jamaica	Providence	Havana
Rachell	William Cooke	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado
Penelope	Henry Combe	Penfilvania	Jamaica	Burnt
Turtle-Dove	John Stoneman	Jamaica	Carolina	Burnt
Virgin Queen		Penfilvania	Jamaica	St. Jago
Malborough	Frezell	London	Saltitudas	Magretos
Palmer	Tho. Milechamp	London	Jamaica	St. Jago
St. Ann	Tho. Quin	London	Jamaica	Trinidado
Griffin	William Taylor	London	Jamaica	Havana
Betty	Edw. Bridgen	London	Jamaica	Havana
Bathshua	John Wells	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado
Dolphin	Palmer	Penfilvania	Jamaica	Plundered
Sarah	Aufin	London	Carolina	Plundered
Stowell		Bristol	Jamaica	Plundered
Larke	James Morgan	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado
Hamilton	Joseph Smith	Bristol	Jamaica	Havana

1717

1719

1720

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Ships Names.	Masters.	Of what Port.	Where bound.	Where carried. to
Joseph	Emes	London	Jamaica	Havana
Blackwood	John Hamilton	London	Jamaica	Havana
Benjamin	William Rivers	Jamaica	Coasting	Trinidado
Content	William Cooke	Jamaica	Lugan	Burnt
Westbury	Jabes Beglow	Bristol	Jamaica	Baraco
Paradox	Will. Quarrel	Jamaica	Lugan	Burnt
William	Oth. Davis	Jamaica	Lugan	Trinidado
Defiance	Oxbrough	Jamaica	Guard Sloop	Trinidado
Unity	Fr. Plaisted	London	Jamaica	Baraco
Kingfale	England	Bristol	Jamaica	Baraco
Betty	John James	Bristol	Jamaica	St. Domingo
Anna Maria	Phelps	Bristol	Jamaica	St. Jago
Princ. of Portugal		London	Jamaica	St. Domingo
Lovely Polly		London	Jamaica	Plundered

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Esti-

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Estimate of the Negroes taken off the Island of Jamaica, during the Peace with France and Spain.

	Negroes.		l.
From	Major Cook ———	30	valued at ——— 1350
	Col. Ja. Heywood	14	most Tradesmen. 900
	John Buckner	48	————— 2160
	Thomas Orgil	14	Ditto ——— 630
	Dr. Sinclair —	26	and 50 l. in Plate. 1170
	Capt. Saunders	25	————— 1125
	Beckf. & Fletcher	25	————— 1125
	Samuel Pool ———	110	————— 4950
	Charles Byndlofs	34	————— 1530
	Beckford & Pym	5	————— 225
		331	15165

N. B. It would be almost impossible to make an exact Estimate of all the Ships and Cargoes, contained in the foregoing List, which were taken by the *Spaniards* in the *West-Indies*; as many of them belong'd to distant Places, and probably several of the Masters and Owners are dead; many of them to my certain Knowledge were worth from 5 to 10000 l. each, and some of them more, particularly the *Unity*, Capt. *Plaisted*, and the *Anna Maria*, Capt. *Phelps*: But supposing them to be worth 3000 l. one with another, which is as low as they can well be computed at; And I am confident to be considerably under their true Value, yet at that rate, those Damages amount to 141000 l. to which the Estimate of the Negroes taken off the Island of *Jamaica* amounts to — 15165

being added, makes ——— 156165

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IF an exact Lift and Estimate could be made of all the Damages sustained by the Northern Colonies, (particularly *New-England* and *Virginia*, which are many in Number) as well as the several Ports in *England*, and the Islands ; that Sum would appear very far short of the true Value : for 'tis notorious, they never met with an *English* Vessel, and could overcome, which they did not take, destroy or plunder.

IN the Column of the Lift of Ships, where bound, by Coasters I mean a Vessel that goes round the Island of *Jamaica*, to bring the Produce to Market.

Musquitos, is a Nation of *Indians* on the Continent, who never were conquered, or in Subjection to the *Spaniards*. They own themselves dependant on *Jamaica* ; and when the King dyes, the next in Blood is not acknowledged by them, till he is confirmed by a Commission from the Governor of that Island, whom they esteem one of the greatest Potentates in the World : they are a friendly good natured People, and very useful to the *English*.

N. B. *Though I have abbreviated the following Depositions, there is not the least Alteration as to the Sense or Substance of them. Many others I have by me, and more might be procured, but it would be tedious to insert them all ; and these being sufficient for my purpose.*

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N^o. I.

*The Deposition of James Francis Targeir, Aged
Forty Years, &c.*

Jamaica, fl.

THAT this Deponent being Master of the Sloop *Pearle*, fitted out from *Port Royal*, and bound to *Curasoe*, in *June 1715*, was taken on the Coast of *Hispaniola*, by *Emanuel Sanchez*, Commander of the Sloop *Nuestra Senora de las Mercedez*, belonging to *St. Domingo*, on the said Island, where he carried him, after he had used this Deponent very barbarously.

THAT after several Courts were held in the Space of 4 Months, the said Sloop and Cargo was condemned for no other Reason, but because she had some Logwood and Snuff aboard, which said Sloop and Cargo was worth two thousand Pounds, &c.

James Francis Targeir.

Sworn before me the 3d of

Aug. 1716.

John Warner.

N^o. II.

Jamaica, fl.

DAVID JOHNSON, of *Port Royal*, Mariner, &c. maketh Oath, that on the 9th of *Jan. 1712*. being on Board the Sloop *Charles*, whereof this Deponent was sole Owner, and *Anthony Smith*, Master; 3 Leagues to Leeward of *Withywood*, on the said Island, and laden with Sugar, Rum, and other Commodities, the Produce of the Island, taken

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ken in at *Blewfields* in order to transport them to *Port Royal*: which said Sloop and Cargo was worth 4214*l.* they met with a Sloop commanded by *Monfieur Norat*, and Commissioned out of *Trinidado*, who took and made Prize of the said Sloop and Cargo.

THAT upon Application to Lord *Archibald Hamilton*, late Governor of this Island, he obtain'd a Letter to the Governor of *Trinidado*, demanding Restitution of the said Sloop and Cargo. That the said Governor of *Trinidado*, instead of a Compliance, abruptly answered, that the Governor of *Jamaica* was not a Gentleman, that there was not any Gentlemen in *Jamaica*; and that he might take his Demand and wipe his Ass with it. This Deponent further saith, that he never had any Satisfaction for the said Vessel and Cargo thus illegally taken, and further saith not.

David Johnson:

Sworn before me, Aug. 9.

1716.

John Warner.

N^o. III.

Jamaica, ff.

JAMES COMERFORD, of *Kingston*, &c. appeared before me, and made Oath, that on the 10th of *April*, 1716, this Deponent sailed from this Island, in the Sloop *Samuel*, *Andrew Crean*, Master, and in three Days after, in sight of Land, they met with a Sloop called the *Aurora*, *Joseph de Lumbré* Commander, commissioned out of *St. Jago de Cuba*.

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ON haling the said Sloop, they answered from Sea, and ordered them to strike or they would not give any Quarters. Thereupon one of the said Sloop *Samuel's* Men lowered the Main Sail; but Capt. *Crean* ordered it to be hoisted again. They then fired a Volley of small Arms, and one great Gun, which killed the Captain and several others. And in boarding, they shot Mr. *Henry Sharp*, and the Mate, and made Prize of the said Sloop and Cargo, which this Deponent computes to be worth at the time of the Capture 4500 l.

James Comerford.

Sworn before me Aug. 13.

1716.

James Knight.

, N^o. IV.

The Deposition of Thomas Fag, Aged 38 Years, &c.

Jamaica, fl.

THAT this Deponent was part Owner of the Sloop *Thomas and Elizabeth*, *Matthew Muffon*, Master, and sailed from this Island the latter End of July 1714, bound to the *Musquitos* to trade with the *Indians*. On their Return in September following, they were taken by a *Spanish* Brigantine, belonging to *Trinidado*; and after Quarter was given, *Brian Wells*, Mate of the said Sloop, was killed in cool Blood.

THAT the said Sloop was carried into Port, and condemned, and soon after the said *Muffon* arrived

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ved in this Island ; and on the Information he gave to the Lord *Archibald Hamilton*, then Governor, he wrote a Letter to the Alcaldeis of *Trinidado*, demanding Restitution of the said Sloop and Cargo. Also for another named the *Derothy*, and two others belonging to this Island, which said Letter was delivered to the Alcaldeis of *Trinidado* by this Deponent ; and after several Consultations among themselves, they told him that the Privateer (as they called him) who had brought the Sloop in, had sold her, received the Money, and was gone about his Business, so that they had nothing to make him Satisfaction : And that if he was inclined to have the Sloop again, he must buy her of the Man that bought her.

Thomas Fag.

Sworn the 3d of Sept. 1716. before
his Excellency in Council,
Tho. Croose, Cl. Council.

Nº. V.

*The Deposition of Henry Comb, late Master of the
Penelope of Philadelphia, &c.*

Jamaica, fl.

THAT on the 14th of *June* last, he sailed from the said Port, laden with Flower, &c. bound to this Island ; and that on the 7th of *July*, about 8 Leagues to the Eastward of it, he was chased by a *Spanish* Sloop mounted with 6 Guns, and 125 Men ; and in about three Hours after, they came up with, attacked and took the said Sloop *Penelope*. Whereupon this Deponent, and 4 of his

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his Men were sent on board the said *Spanish Sloop*, commanded by one *Laurence Martel*. Soon after they were stripped of all their Cloaths, and after they had sent some of their Men on board the *Penelope*, they set sail with the said Sloop, and two others they had taken a Day or two before (one of which was bound from *Road Island*, and the other from *Carolina* to this Island) towards *Cuba*. In their Passage thither, they met with a Sloop called the *Virgin Queen*, bound from *Philadelphia* to this Island, which they also took, and carried them into *Coxons-Hole*, on the East End of *Cuba*.

THAT on the 21st of *July*, this Deponent understanding that they designed either to kill them, or to set them on some desolate Island, with 4 Men more, made their Escape in the Night, and in six Days got to *St. Jago de Cuba*; and forthwith waited on the Governor, and acquainted him that they were taken by the said *Spanish Sloop*, and that the Men belonging to her declared, they acted by Virtue of a Commission from the Governor of *Trinidado*; and would take all Vessels they met and could overcome, particularly Vessels going to, or coming from *Jamaica*.

THAT they also acquainted the Governor of *St. Jago*, that some of the Goods taken in the said Sloop *Penelope*, were then landing in the said Town, and demanded Justice of him; to which he answered, that he could not help it, and took no further Notice of their Complaints; on the contrary, made a Jest and Ridicule of them.

THIS Deponent further saith, That he saw some of the Provisions which came out of the said Sloop

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Sloop *Penelope*, in the Governor of St. *Jago's* House, and several other Houses in the said Town. That he also saw two of the Men belonging to the said *Spanish* Sloop, when they were taken, in the said Town, and demanded that they might be taken up and punished; but he took no manner of Notice of them: That they remained six Weeks in the said Town, and frequently applied to the Governor for Satisfaction, but to no purpose. That they were informed before their Departure, that the Sloop *Penelope*, and the *Carolina* Sloop were burnt by the *Spaniards* who took them.

Henry Comb.

*Sworn before his Excellency in
Council, Sept. 25. 1716.
S. Page, Secret. & Cl. Coun.*

N^o. VI.

The Deposition of Thomas Fag, Aged 38 Years, &c.

Jamaica, ff.

THAT this Deponent owned one half of the Sloop *William*, and her Cargo, and sailed from *Port Royal* the 4th of *August* last, bound for *Curaço*; that in 8 or 10 Days after they were taken about 3 Leagues to Windward of *Port Louis*, at a Place called *Hacquien*, on the *French* Part of *Hispaniola*, by a *Spanish* Sloop, commissioned out of *St. Jago de Cuba* as a *Guarda de la Costa*, as the People on board informed him. On which this
De-

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Deponent demanded of the Captain what pretence he had to take him that was on his lawful Occasions, and not Trading on their Coast; to which he reply'd, that *Hispaniola* was the *Spanish* Coast, and that the King of *Spain* never gave it to the *French*; and that it still belonged to the King of *Spain*. Whereupon this Deponent reply'd, That he might as well have taken him on the *Jamaica* Shore; to which he answered, as soon there as any where; and that if he had met him there he would have taken him.

Soon after they asked all this Deponent's Men if they would take up Arms with them, but they all refused except one, to whom they gave this Deponent's Chest of Cloaths as an Encouragement.

About seven in the Evening, they ordered all but the above Defenter into the *Canoa*, in order to put them a-shore: The Boat-swain thereupon said he would go in the Sloop, for he was sure they could not make a Prize of her; but they would not let him: And immediately set them on an uninhabited Island (having first stripped them of their Cloaths) about three Leagues distant from *Hispaniola*.

Before they departed, this Deponent asked them for some Water and Provisions, which they refused: And that they remained three Days and three Nights without either.

*Sworn before his Excellency in
Council, Sept. 3. 1716.*

Thomas Fag.

Tho. Croose, Cl. Coun.

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Nº. VII.

Jamaica, fl.

WILLIAM MUSTO, Master of the Sloop *Newport*, appeared before me, and made Oath, that on the 22d of *May* 1716, being off of *Cape Nichola*, and bound from *Carolina* to *Jamaica*; the said Sloop and Cargo was taken by a *Guarda de la Costa*, commissioned out of *St. Jago de Cuba*, though he had not Traded, or attempted to trade with the *Spaniards*.

THAT upon Application to the Governor of *St. Jago*, and the Royal Officers, for Restitution of the said Sloop and Cargo; they answered, that the Sloop had Logwood aboard, it was no matter where she had it, she was a lawful Prize; and that he could not obtain any Satisfaction.

William Musto.

Sworn before me Aug. 9.

1716.

William Norris.

Nº. VIII.

Jamaica, fl.

BRICE GREY of *St. Katharines*, &c. appeared before me, and made Oath, that in *June* 1715. he sailed from this Island a Passenger on board the *John and Mary*, *John Stevenson*, Master, bound to *Philadelphia*; and on the 23d of *July* they were taken off the West End of *Hispaniola*, by a Sloop called the *Francisco*. *Alberto de Soto* Commander, fitted

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fitted out of *Trinadado*, as a *Guarda de la Costa*, having 6 Guns and 100 Men; and that the Reason they gave for seizing and detaining the said Sloop and Cargo was, because she had on board 41 Neat Hides, rough dried, and some Calve Skins, which said Hides and Skins were the Produce of this Island, as this Deponent was informed by *John Morgan of Kingston*, Sadler, who shipped them.

Brice Guy.

Sworn before me,

Dec. 10. 1715.

Tho. Boteleir.

Nº. IX.

Jamaica, ff.

JOHNS TURNER and NICHOLAS BILLET, being duly sworn, depose and saith, That they were Sailors, belonging to the *Westbury Galley* of *Bristol*, *Jabis Beglow* Master; that on the 21st of *March* last, in their Passage from *Guinea* to *Jamaica*, having 177 *Negroes* on board, they were taken in the said Ship off of *Cape Marilla*, on the Coast of *Hispaniola*, by a Sloop called the *Santa Cruz* *Depadro*, one *Rodrigo* Commander, and carried into *Baraco*, on the Island of *Cuba*; that *Nicholas Browne* and *Christopher Winter*, two *Englishmen*, were on board the said Sloop, and that the said *Browne* and *Winter* forged Orders under the Owners Names in *England*, directed to *Mr. Loyd* in *Jamaica*, to send the said Ship with her *Negroes*, and £ 1200 worth of dry Goods, to the *South Keys*, and brought them to these Deponents, and threatened

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ned to hang them if they would not swear those Orders were true, These Deponents further say, that the said Ship was bound with her *Negroes* directly to this Island, and designed to no other Place.

Sworn before me, July

13, 1721.

Peter Vallet.

John Turner,

Nicholas Billet.

Nº. X.

The Deposition of Thomas Simmons, and others, late belonging to the Unity, Francis Plaisted Commander.

Jamaica, fl.

THESE Deponents do severally depose and say, That on the 28th of July last, about Eight Leagues distance from *Cape Tiberoon*, they observed a Sloop steering in their Wake, with a black Pendant on their Mast-head, and a Bloody-jack on the Bowsprit end, which they did believe to be a Pyrate; upon which the Captain ordered a Gun to be fired at them, which they returned, and after viewing them some Time, and perceiving them to be a Ship from *Africa*, with *Negroes*, they came under their Stern, and fired a Volley of Small Arms, and then clapt them on board, took Possession of the Vessel, barbarously using their People, and destroying whatever came in their Way; and that during the whole Action, they hoisted no other Colours, than the black Pendant, and Bloody-jack.

THESE

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THESE Deponents further say, that the Day after they were ordered to hoist out the said Ship *Unity's* Boat, and all the Crew to go into her; and were informed, the Commander had given Orders for a Shot to be fired into, with intent to sink the said Long-boat, and destroy the Company in her. But at the Intercession of two *English* Men aboard, they were taken into the said Sloop again; where they continued till three the next Morning, when by the Assistance of the said *English* Men, they went into the Boat, with two Pieces of Beef and some Water, and arrived at this Island the 1st of *August* last.

THESE Deponents further say, that from their Departure from *Barbadoes*, they did not touch at any Port, but were steering directly to this Island, and that at the Time of the Capture, there was on board 251 Slaves, belonging to the *Royal African Company*; and that during their Passage, they did not speak with any Vessel, or any other Craft, so that they could not have any Trade.

Sworn before me, Octo.

19, 1722.

John Lewis.

Thomas Simmons,

Henry Caldecut,

Richard Smith,

Francis Juvin,

John Matthews.

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N^o. XI.

Extract of a Letter from Sir Nicholas Laws (late Governor of Jamaica) to the Governor of the Havanna.

S I R,

THIS Letter will be delivered to your Excellency by Mess. *Nicholson* and *Calder*, who are impowered by the Agents for the *Royal African Company*, of *England*, to make Application to your Excellency, for Restitution of the Ship *Unity*, with 257 *Negroes*, belonging to the said Company.

YOUR Excellency will be pleas'd to observe by the authentick Proofs and Certificates, which are herewith transmitted, that the said Ship and *Negroes* were most unjustly taken off of *Cape Tiberoon*, on the Coast of *Hispaniola*, on the 28th of *July* last, by a *Spanish Sloop*, which I am imformed carried the said Ship and *Negroes* into *Trinadado*, under your Excellency's Jurisdiction; and that the *Alcaldies* of that Place have condemned them on Suggestion of the Captors, that they found her trading on that Coast: The contrary of which will evidently appear by the enclos'd Depositions, as well as from the Nature of the Thing it self; therefore I cannot doubt your Excellency's ordering full and ample Satisfaction, &c.

IN a former Letter I represented to your Excellency, as well as to the rest of my neighbouring *Spanish* Governors; but more particularly to the Governor of *St. Jago*, and the *Alcaldies* of *Trinadado*; the many Acts of *Pyracies* and *Robberies* committed on the Subjects of the King my Master, by Vessels fitted out of *Trinadado*, and

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other Ports, with Commissions, as they pretend, to guard their Coast from unlawful Traders: but in reality, under Colour of such Commissions, commit frequent Depredations, and are guilty of the most enormous Crimes without (so far as I can understand) their ever being punished for them. On the contrary, they are not only admitted with their Prizes, as they call them, into the Port of *Trinidado*, in particular, where they are immediately condemned, the Negroes and Goods shared and divided; but the Captors are also encouraged in their Villainy by those in Authority, who permit them to refit their Vessels, share in their Plunder, and send them out again in search of more Booty.

It must be no less surprising to his Catholick Majesty, than it will be to the King my Master, when they receive an Account of such unwarrantable Proceedings in time of profound Peace; which must appear a manifest breach of that good Agreement stipulated between the two Crowns, and in our respective Capacities ought to be cultivated and improved to the utmost of our Power. As for my Part, I can with great Confidence assure your Excellency, it has been my constant Endeavour, that strict Justice should be done to such of the *Spanish* Nation who have had Demands here since the Cessation of Arms; and several of them have already had ample Restitution: but I am sorry that I have it to say, my Master's Subjects have not met with reciprocal Justice from the *Spanish* Governors.

I am with great Truth and Sincerity,

Your Excellency's most Obedient,

And most Humble Servant,

Jamaica, Oct. 24.

1722.

NICH. LAWS.

N°. XII.

Nº. XII.

Bristol, fl.

JOSEPH LUDLOW, and James Coveney, Mate and Boatswain of the Ship *Anna Maria*, James Phelps Master, of this Port, made Oath, that on the 22d of *June* 1724, they sailed from hence to *Cork* and *Jamaica*, where they disposed of her Cargo, and reladed the Ship with Sugar, Cotton, Indico, Dying-woods, and other Merchandizes; besides a considerable Quantity of Gold and Silver; that they sailed from *Jamaica* the 9th of *February* last, bound directly for *Bristol*, and did not put in at any other Port or Place: That on the 7th of *March* last, about 10 Leagues distance from *Long Island*, a Sloop chased them; and on coming up, fired several Guns, boarded, and by force took the said Ship *Anna Maria*, and carried the Master with 7 of his Men, all his Books and Papers, and 20 Bags (of several Sizes) of coined Silver on board the said Sloop. That the Commander of the said Sloop declared, he had a Commission from the Governor of *St. Jago de Cuba*. That there was left on board the *Anna Maria*, these Deponents, and two more of the said Ship's Company, under the Care and Command of *Don Pedro Gastra de Aquila*, who was Mate of the said Sloop, and several more of her Men; with Orders to follow the said Sloop to *Baraco*, to which Port the *Anna Maria* could not get by Reason of contrary Winds: but in 12 Days after arrived at the *Havanna*, and there by order of the Governor, all the Cargo of the said Ship *Anna Maria* was taken out, and the Ship stript of her Sails, and

E 2 great

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great part of her Rigging, and lay in a perishing
Condition.

*Joseph Ludlow.
James Coveney.*

*Sworn at the City of
Bristol, July 29. 1725.
before me,*

Josh. Jeffreys, Mayor.

Nº. XIII.

*Extract of a Letter from Jamaica, to a Merchant in
London, dated the 1st of May, 1725.*

THE Steps that have been lately taken by the
Spanish Governors of *St. Jago de Cuba*, and
Carthagená, are so very extravagant, that we think
it proper to give you some Account of them.

THE Princess of *Portugal*, a Ship from *London*,
laden with *Madera* Wines, was taken on the High
Seas, in her Passage hither, about three Months
ago ; and carried by one of their *Guarda de la
Costas*, as they call them, into *St. Jago*. The Master
imprisoned, and the Supra-Cargo detained several
Weeks upon pretence of a Tryal in their Courts;
to defray the Charges of which, and to pay such
others at they thought fit to impose upon him,
the poor Man was obliged to sell great part of
his Wines, and, at last, with abundance of Diffi-
culty, got leave to come away with the Re-
mainder.

SINCE

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SINCE this Capt. *Phelps* of the *Anna Maria*, a *Bristol* Ship, had the ill Fortune to fall in the way of a *Spanish* Sloop, who carried him into St. *Jago* : Their pretence was, that he had on board Pieces of Eight, and Logwood.

SOME Weeks ago, a *Spanish* Ship of 16 Guns, and 90 Men, were fitted out of *Carthagena*, under pretence of guarding that Coast ; with private Instructions to take our Vessels : But he happened to be met with by the *Diamond* Man of War, who brought him into this Port nine Days ago. Forty odd of the Men belonging to this *Spanish* Ship made their escape upon a Float, and reach'd the Shore before the Man of War could come up with her. These, we are told, had been formerly Pyrates, on board the *Cassandra* ; some few of their Fellows were brought in with the Ship. From St. *Jago* we are advised, that *Don Carolus de Sucra*, the worthy Governor, is principally concerned in two of these Vessels, and has taken such a liking to the Trade, that he is fitting out five others.

N^o. XIV.

The Deposition of Laurence Van Huefflan, Aged 28 Years, &c.

Jamaica, fl.

THAT this Deponent being bound on a Trading Voyage from the Island of *Jamaica*, about a Year since, in the Sloop *Port Royal*, *John Stevens* Commander, was taken about eight Days after their Departure off of *la Cruz*, to Windward of

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Rio de la Hacha, by one Capt. George, Commander of a *Spanish* Ship called the *Marquedore*, under pretence that they were bound to *Rio de la Hacha*; that after they had struck to the said *Spanish* Ship, a Volley of small Arms were fired at them, whereby Capt. Stevens was so dangerously wounded, that he died the Day after. That the said Capt. George ordered all the Men belonging to the said Sloop *Port Royal*, aboard his Ship, one of which he tortured by claping the Jaws of the Cock of a Fire-lock upon his Tongue, to make him confess that the said Sloop was bound to *Rio de la Hacha*, and threatned to use the rest of them after the same manner, if they did not sign a written Paper, and take up Arms with him, which they did to avoid being tortured. And that about two Months after, (the said Capt. George having cruised all that time) brought them into *Carthagena* as Prisoners; where they continued about four Months; during which Time this Deponent, and several of the Sloop's People applied to the Governor and Lieutenant General for the Sloop and Cargo: who were answered, That they would be condemned without being told for what Reason. This Deponent further saith, he never heard of any Restitution being made; and that the said Sloop never was at, or in any *Spanish* Port before they were taken.

Laurence Van Huesflanz.

Sworn the 11th Day
of Sept. 1716,
before me,
Will. Norris.

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Nº. XV.

Jamaica, ff.

EDWARD ELSEY, aged 28 Years, deposeth, That being Carpenter on board the Sloop *Griffin*, *Michael Taylor*, Commander; they sailed the 28th Day of *May* last, from *Guinea*, and touching only at *Barbadoes*, they proceeded directly to *Jamaica*, where having sold their Cargo of *Negroes*, they loaded their Vessel with the Product of that Island, and sailed from thence the 13th Day of *December*, in Company with several Vessels bound to *Great Britain*; that on the 4th of *January* off of *Cape Mayez*, near the *East End* of *Cuba*, they broke their Gaff, by which Means the rest of the Ships getting a Head, a *Spanish* Sloop commanded by one *Ma-chaw*, boarded and took the said Sloop, *Griffin*, and carried her into a Place called *Massacre*, about Seven Leagues to the *Westward* of the said *Cape Mayez*, and there turned Capt. *Taylor* and his Men on shore, except this Deponent, and a *Negro* Boy: and proceeded with the said Sloop *Griffin*, this Deponent and the Boy, to *Porto Prince*, where they landed the Sugar, &c. and ripped up the said Sloop *Griffin*, to mend a *Spanish* Sloop, in doing of which they compelled this Deponent several Weeks to be assisting; and when fitted, they intended to have forced him, as he was informed, to proceed with them their next Voyage; but taking an Opportunity, run away from them.

THIS Deponent further saith, That the second or third Day after their Arrival at *Porto Prince*, with the Sloop *Griffin*, a Person in Priest's Habit, and who went by the Name of Father *Nicholas*, came on board, and made him, by threatening and holding a

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Pistol over his Head all the Time, write down that the said Sloop *Griffin* had been at *Rio de la Hacha*, and had traded there, and from thence came on their Coast, and had sold several Goods at *Massacre*: which he told him in case the Condemnation did not come from *Baraco*, as he expected; he should swear to, in order to obtain it, or he would shoot him through the Head.

Sworn before me, the 16th
of April, 1723.
Richard Basnet.

Edward Elsey.

Extract of the Minutes of the Assembly of Jamaica, Veneris 24^o Die Septembris, 1725.

MR. *Arcedeckne*, from the Committee of Grievances, acquainted the House, that the Committee had met, and examined into several Matters, which they had directed him to report to the House, which he read, &c.

Mr. SPEAKER,

I AM ordered by the Committee to acquaint the House, that they have received a Representation from the Justices and Vestry of *Port Royal*, setting forth the ruinous Condition the Wall is in, being very much undermined; the little Care that has been taken of repairing thereof, since the same has been said to be added to the Fortifications; and that thereby not only the said Wall, but the whole Town is in danger of being lost, by the first Storm or hard Winds, &c. Your Committee humbly offer

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to the Consideration of the House, as their Opinion, that some speedy Remedy be applied to the Repair of the said Wall.

YOUR *Committee* having seen the Lodgments of his Majesty's Soldiers at *Port Royal*, are of Opinion, that the Mortality amongst them is in a great Measure owing to the Want of proper Lodgings, and have ordered me to lay before the House a Petition which they received from the said Soldiers.

I AM likewise ordered by the Committee to acquaint the House, that it appears to them, that the Honourable *Gabriel Marqui du Quesne*, Commander of his Majesty's Fortifications at *Port Royal*, levies Money, and lays other Impositions on his Majesty's Subjects and their Vessels, contrary to Law : and that he would not suffer the following Vessels, although cleared at the proper Offices, to pass the Fort, before they paid him Money.

THAT he exacted Fifteen Pounds of Capt. *Alexander Murray*, Commander of the *Snow, John and Sarah* of *London*.

FROM Mr. *Stapleton* several Sums of Money, for several Sloops, under the Denomination of Stone-Money, as *per* Receipts.

THAT in the latter End of the Year 1724. he levied Money from one *Young*, under the Denomination of Stone Money, and would not accept of Stones.

FROM one *Charles Curtis*, 9*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* in Money, &c.

AND of and from several other Persons.

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It is observable, that the Sloops belonging to the *Marqui*, never paid Money, that we can find, or fetched Stones.

YOUR *Committee* can't but take Notice, that the said several Exactions are said to be by Force of an Order of Council, soon after the dreadful Hurricane in 1722. which Order, *Your Committee* humbly conceives, could not be intended farther than for the speedy repairing the Fort on that sudden lamentable Occasion ; nor to have Continuance after the repairing of the dangerous Breach or Irruption made by the said Hurricane.

NOR can it be intended or understood in any Sense, contrary to Law, *viz.* either the compelling People to work, or to send their Vessels against their Consent, without reasonable Allowance for their Labour or Use : Much less to give the Captain of the Fort, Authority to levy Money, for dispensing with that Service ; it being, if the Service were necessary, a Breach of his Duty, to dispense therewith ; if unnecessary, an unwarrantable Abuse of the Order, and of the Authority by which it was made ; as if they could or had taken upon them to levy Money on the Subject without Law.

YOUR *Committee* must likewise represent to your Honours, at the Desire of the Justices and Vestry of *Port Royal*, the great Decay of *English* Trade, occasioned by the Number of *French*, and other Foreigners trading hither ; to which *Your Committee* beg leave to observe, that the *Marqui Du Quesne*, who has the Command of Fort *Charles*, (kept up, and maintain'd at a vast Charge and Expence to this Island, not only as a Security, against open Enemies,

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mies, but for protecting the lawful Trade, and for preventing that which is unlawful) contributes; by permitting Goods of foreign Growth and Manufacture, to be imported without Custom or Duty being paid for the same. And by his unlawful Trading with the *Dutch*, and other Foreigners, and making the said Fort a Store-house or Receptacle for the said Commodities.

It is obvious how these Practices have drawn many alien Traders hither, under Pretence of Refreshment, but really with the said Marqui's Connivance, to trade and sell their Commodities, in such Quantities, that the Goods of *English* Manufacture lye on the Importer's Hands.

THE Deputy to the Receiver General, and Collector at *Port Royal*, represented to *Your Committee*, that the Marqui *Du Quesne*, some time in the Month of *February* last, in manifest Contempt and Defiance of the Acts of Trade, and Laws of this Island, ordered out a Sloop of his own, called the *Dutchess*, without complying with the said several Laws, or clearing at either of the said Offices.

How much it is in the Power of such a Commander, entrusted with the Key of this Island, to ruin or destroy the Inhabitants, by sending off their Slaves or Debtors; notwithstanding all the Laws made for their Security, is needless for *Your Committee* to observe upon, &c.

Sabbati, 9^o Die Octobris, 1725.

THE House, according to Order, taking into Consideration the Reports of the *Committee of Grievances*, and the Answer or Justification of the Honourable

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ble *Gabriel Marqui Du Quesne*: and the Report made to the House, the 24th of *September* last, being read Paragraph by Paragraph, came to the following Resolutions.

1. *Resolved*, That 150*l. per. Ann.* appropriated by Law, for the Use of the Wall at *Port Royal*, be paid to the Church Wardens, &c.

2. *Resolved*, That this House having taken into Consideration the ill Accommodation of the Soldiers, are of opinion, that convenient Barracks should be built for them; that an Address be presented to his Grace to that End, &c.

3. *Resolved*, It is the Opinion of this House, that the exacting the bringing of Stones, or any other Duty on the Subject, or compelling them to work, or to send their Vessels for that Purpose, against their Consent, or without reasonable Allowance for their Service, contrary to Law, is a high Infringement of the Liberties and Properties of his Majesty's Subjects of this Island.

4. *Resolved*, That the Orders set forth, and insisted on, by the *Marqui Du Quesne*, as Orders of Council (in his Answer) are illegal; and that his acting under any such Orders, in imposing and collecting a Tax of Stones, from the trading Sloops and Vessels, was arbitrary and illegal.

5. *Resolved*, That the *Marqui Du Quesne*, acting under the aforesaid Orders, produced by him as Orders of Council, in compounding and taking Money from the several Masters and Owners of Vessels, in lieu of Stones, is a corrupt and dangerous Practice.

6. *Re-*

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6. *Resolved*, That the said *Marqui Du Quesne*, had beyond the Time limitted by the Order of Council, under Colour of the same, continued and practised to levy Money, and other Exactions from the Subjects, for some Months; without Law, or any colourable Pretence whatsoever; to the great Loss and Detriment of the trading Part of his Majesty's Subjects of this Island.

7. *Resolved*, That the *Marqui Du Quesne*, Commander of his Majesty's Fortifications at Port Royal; whose Duty it was, not only to protect the lawful Trade, but also to prevent that which is unlawful; clandestinely buying and running *French* and *Dutch* Merchandizes, and landing the same at or near the Fort, in the Night, is a Contrivance tending to the Subversion of the Trade of this Island, and occasions vast Quantities of *English* Goods to lye and perish on the Importers Hands, and discourages the *British* Navigation.

8. *Resolved*, It appearing to this House, that ——— *Lamego*, *Isaac Lopez*, ——— *Silvera*, Widow, *John Drudge*, Capt. *Lauderdale*, and ——— *Bonfils*, jun. were concerned in the said Clandestine Trade with the *Dutch* and *French*. That an Address be presented to his Grace, desiring he will be pleased to give Directions to the Attorney General, to prosecute them for the same.

9. *Resolved*, It appearing to the House, that though the *Marqui du Quesne* applied to Mr. *Stapleton* for his Clearance of the Sloop *Dutchess*, and had given Bond in the Secretaries Office; yet that the said *Stapleton* refusing to clear the said Sloop, insisting that Capt. *Smee*, who commanded her

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her the former Voyage, owed for some Duties on Negroes exported in her that Voyage; and on such Refusal, the *Marqui* permitting and ordering her to pass the *Fort* without the usual Permits, acted illegally and contrary to his Duty, as Captain of the *Fort*.

10. *Resolved*, It is the Opinion of this House, that neither the Captain of the *Fort*, nor any other Person whatsoever, hath any Right or Power to compel any Masters of Vessels, or other Persons, to bring any private Letters to the *Fort*.

11. *Resolved*, That an *Humble Address* be presented to his *Majesty*, with the Reports of the *Committee of Grievances*, and these Resolutions; humbly desiring, he would be graciously pleased to prevent the like Mischiefs; and to put a stop to the growing dangerous Evils.

12. *Resolved*, That an *Address* be presented to his *Grace*, to desire, that he will be pleased to transmit and lay before his *Majesty* the said *Address*, Report and Resolutions, in the most effectual manner; and use his good Offices, that all these Grievances may be fully redress'd.

Ordered, That Mr. *Henderson*, Mr. *Edmond Kelly*, Mr. *Mumbe*, Mr. *Charleton*, and Mr. *Pestel*, be a Committee to prepare both *Addresses*.

Vera Copia.

Tho. Croose, Clerk to the Assembly.

N. B. It cannot be doubted, that the *Address*, with the Report of the Committee of Grievances, and Re-

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Resolutions of the Assembly thereupon, have been accordingly transmitted by the Governor; as they were laid before him sometime in November last: How much it becomes the Gentlemen of Jamaica, who are in England, and those that are concerned in that Trade, to use their Interest on this Occasion, is needless for me to observe upon; since their Rights and Properties have been affected; and may be much more, if not duly and fully represented to those in Power.

E R R A T A.

Page 17. Line 34. for Possessions read Possessors. p. 32. l. 17. for Place read Plan. p. 40. after the Word Treaty, in the 1st. l. read, of Navigation and Commerce.



THE HISTORY OF JAMAICA

RELATIONS OF THE AMERICAN INDIANS, FROM THE
FIRST DISCOVERY OF THE ISLAND, TO THE PRESENT
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